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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM

THE SITUATION OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN HAITI

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 11 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Barbados to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the Communiqué issued at Bridgetown following the conclusion of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), held in Barbados from 4 to 7 July 1994 (see annex), and to request that it be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 29, 34, 92 and 93 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) E. Besley MAYCOCK
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Communiqué of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, held at Bridgetown from 4 to 7 July 1994

Montserrat was not represented at the Conference.

The British Virgin Islands, an Associate Member of the Community, was represented by Mr. H. Lavity Stoutt, Chief Minister.

The following Prime Ministers delivered addresses at the opening ceremony: Mr. L. Erskine Sandiford, Mr. James Mitchell, Mr. Manuel Esquivel and Mr. Lester Bird. Mr. Edwin Carrington, Secretary-General, chaired the proceedings and made an opening statement.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr. L. Erskine Sandiford, Prime Minister of Barbados and Chairman of the Conference, called upon the Caribbean Community to move to a higher level of functioning by combining its economic and other strengths, in order to provide prosperity and hope and a better, more sustainable life for its people. He urged that the Community should seek through patient, persistent and pragmatic steps to build upon its achievements, to learn from past mistakes and to build, incrementally, a Community that "reflects as well as manifests the aspirations and dreams of Caribbean people for progress and prosperity".

Presentations made to the Conference

The Heads of Government received presentations from Mr. Yesu Persaud, President of the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce and Mr. Kertist Augustus, General Secretary of the Caribbean Congress of Labour on issues relevant to the private sector and labour, respectively.

They also received a presentation from Ms. Angela Cropper, Executive Secretary of the Convention for Biodiversity, with respect to the particular relevance of that Convention to CARICOM States.

Order of the Caribbean Community

The Heads of Government received a report from the Advisory Committee on the Order of the Caribbean Community submitting recommendations for the award of the Order, and agreed to confer the Order of the Caribbean Community on four distinguished CARICOM nationals.

Deepening the integration process

The Heads of Government reflected on the significance of the 21 years of development of the regional integration movement and its successes and failures. They noted that today's world made cooperation arrangements among States such as those comprising CARICOM most essential, and recognized that the twenty-first century would make effective cooperation among small States indispensable.

In that context, the Heads of Government reviewed developments in the global economy during 1993 which had had an impact on the economic performance of the region, including an expansion in global output, accompanied by low rates of inflation, low short-term interest rates and some volatility among major currencies. They noted that the global economy had witnessed sluggish growth, high rates of unemployment in some of the industrialized countries and depressed commodity prices in the international market, with the notable exceptions of coffee and cocoa.

Those developments encompassed several issues which were likely to influence the region's policy-making. These included the reduction in net capital flows from bilateral and multilateral sources, as well as the negative consequences of graduation of some CARICOM countries from concessionary funding arrangements of a number of multilateral institutions.

The Heads of Government also noted that the agreement at the recently concluded Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations represented a movement towards increased liberalization of trade, and that the region had to prepare to respond, as a matter of urgency, to the challenges that global trade liberalization would present to the economies of the region. There was also the recognition that the phenomenon of low growth in the major industrialized countries was being translated into a weakening in demand for many of the region's exports. In that regard, they recognized the need for the region to be even more competitive, given its vulnerable economies and the formation of trading blocs, such as that created under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

With regard to regional economic developments, the Heads of Government noted that most CARICOM countries had achieved positive rates of growth, though in some cases growth was slower than in the previous year. They were concerned that unemployment levels in the region continued to be high but noted, however, that inflation was contained to a single digit level in many of their countries. The Heads of Government also welcomed the reduction in the region's external debt as countries sought to limit new external borrowing and to service systematically existing debt obligations. They however expressed their concern that debt constituted a major impediment to sustained growth in the severely indebted countries. They reiterated the critical need for a reduction in the external debt and debt-servicing burdens of the heavily indebted CARICOM countries, much of which debt was owed to multilateral financial institutions. They emphasized the need to maintain external debt reduction as a priority element of the region's external negotiation strategy and for member States to devise a unified practical response to the external debt issue, through an appropriate regional mechanism, with a view to securing debt relief for the countries concerned.

Against this background, they deliberated on the following issues relating to the deepening of the integration movement, as well as the development of the region's external relations.

Single market and economy

The Heads of Government reviewed the progress towards the establishment of the CARICOM single market and economy. They expressed their concern at the slow pace of progress in the execution of the work programme of the single market and economy, which was adopted at the Third Inter-sessional Meeting of the Conference, held at Kingston in February 1992, and the rate of implementation of decisions by member States. They emphasized the need for the work on the single market and economy to be accorded high priority at both the national and regional levels.

The Heads of Government stressed that, in the context of the single market and economy, it was imperative that there be additional emphasis on intraregional trade.

The Heads of Government called for an intensified effort to implement the agreed work programme. They agreed that a report would be presented to the Sixth Inter-sessional Meeting of the Conference, whose agenda would focus on issues related to the single market and economy.

Double Taxation Agreement

The Heads of Government welcomed the signature by eight member States of the CARICOM Double Taxation Agreement on 6 July 1994. They noted that the Agreement would come into force when it was ratified by at least two member States. They therefore urged early ratification of the Agreement in the continuing effort for economic cooperation in the region and towards the establishment of the CARICOM single market and economy.

Travelling in the region

The Heads of Government received the report from the leader of the delegation of Grenada, the country with lead responsibility for the promotion of travelling in the region. They noted that common lines for citizens, residents and CARICOM nationals at international ports of entry had been implemented in 11 member States, and that 8 member States had implemented decisions which allowed CARICOM nationals to use forms of identification other than passports to enter those member States.

The Heads of Government urged those member States that had not adopted the necessary measures to facilitate hassle-free travel in the region to do so expeditiously.

Free movement of skills

The Heads of Government received the report of the President of Guyana on efforts towards implementing the free movement of skills in the region. They noted with satisfaction that several member States were in the process of

implementing the decision of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference with respect to the free movement of skills.

They accepted the recommendation by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies that CARICOM nationals who were graduates of the University of the Virgin Islands should be recognized on an equal footing with their counterparts of the University of the West Indies and the University of Guyana for the purpose of implementing the decisions affecting the free movement of such graduates.

Establishment of a common currency

The Heads of Government received the report of the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago on efforts towards the establishment of a common currency in the region. They agreed that the Committee of Central Bank Governors should continue to work to develop the detailed arrangements for the achievement of that objective.

Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians

The Heads of Government expressed satisfaction that the agreement establishing the Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians would come into force on 3 August 1994 following the deposit of the instrument of ratification of the agreement establishing the Assembly by Antigua and Barbuda, providing the requisite seventh ratification. The six member States which had previously ratified the Agreement were the Bahamas, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. The Heads of Government recognized that the Assembly would constitute a forum for a wider debate on issues affecting the region and therefore looked forward to the holding of the first session of the Assembly at a date and venue to be determined in the very near future.

Charter of civil society

The Heads of Government recalled that the draft charter of civil society had been adopted by the fourteenth meeting of the conference, held in the Bahamas in July 1993, as the basis for national consultations. They received reports on progress being made and reaffirmed the importance of continued emphasis being placed by all member States on ensuring that the charter received the widest discussion by CARICOM nationals prior to its implementation. They endorsed the need for the widest possible dissemination of the provisions and aims of the charter in order to assist in sensitizing the public to its provisions.

Air transportation issues

The Heads of Government considered the provision of regional air transportation in the context of its importance to the people of the Caribbean and to regional economies. They reviewed the issue of the reorganization, management and privatization of LIAT (1974) Ltd. and agreed that its management

should be turned over to the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda and Trinidad and Tobago on 1 August 1994. The shareholder Governments agreed that the existing members of LIAT's Board of Directors should resign by 31 July 1994, and that a new board should be appointed by 1 August 1994 to manage the airline. Thereupon, the current arrears to the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) would be paid from an escrow account established at the Antigua Commercial Bank in the sum of 10 million East Caribbean dollars.

The Heads of Government further agreed that the said escrow account would be utilized to service the debt with CDB, and that LIAT would continue to service, through its cash flow, all existing liabilities as of 1 August 1994 on behalf of all shareholders, who would remain responsible for those existing liabilities. All new net liabilities incurred between 1 August 1994 and 31 March 1995 would be the responsibility of the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda and Trinidad and Tobago. No further subventions to LIAT would be required from shareholders.

The Heads of Government agreed to consider a proposal for the privatization of LIAT, including transitional arrangements, which should be submitted not later than 31 January 1995 for their consideration at the subsequent inter-sessional meeting of the Conference, and, in any case, not later than 31 March 1995.

The Heads of Government further agreed that between 1 August 1994 and the date of privatization, LIAT should continue to enjoy the route rights currently assigned to it, provided that those rights were not in contravention of the provisions of the proposed multilateral air services agreement. Normal services now provided by LIAT to shareholder Governments would be maintained during the stated period.

The Heads of Government agreed on the terms and conditions under which LIAT would be managed and operated from 1 August 1994 until 31 March 1995.

They further agreed that an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of LIAT would be convened no later than 25 July 1994 to give effect to the above arrangements, and that the Secretary-General would monitor and assist in their effective implementation.

With regard to the regulatory structure of regional aviation, the Heads of Government considered a draft multilateral agreement which sought to formalize the arrangements for the provision of air services by CARICOM carriers within the Community.

Tourism issues

The Heads of Government received two studies which the Caribbean Tourism Organization had been mandated to carry out, one covering the impact of tourism on the marine environment of the Caribbean and the other dealing with the need for a regulatory body and licensing system to oversee the operations of cruise ships in the Caribbean Sea. They agreed to consider the studies at the next inter-sessional meeting of the Conference.

The Heads of Government agreed, given the overwhelming importance of tourism to the region, to convene a Second Summit Meeting on Caribbean Tourism in 1995, and accepted the offer of Barbados to host that Summit. They agreed to invite all potential members of the Association of Caribbean States, regional tourism organizations and other appropriate bodies to the Summit.

Money laundering in the Caribbean

The Heads of Government, recognizing the debilitating effect of illicit drug trafficking on the social, economic and political fabric of the region, accepted the recommendation for accelerating the implementation of the regional action agenda against drugs money laundering, as outlined in the 1992 Kingston Declaration.

Association of Caribbean States

The Heads of Government expressed their great satisfaction that the text of a draft convention establishing an association of Caribbean States, an association originally proposed by the West Indian Commission, was initialled by the parties at Caracas on 29 June 1994.

They were pleased that arrangements for the establishment of the Association of Caribbean States had been vigorously pursued by the Community in accordance with the decision adopted by the Conference at its Fourth Inter-sessional Meeting, held in Dominica in 1993. The Heads of Government were therefore looking forward to the signing of the convention later this month, which would launch new opportunities for the pursuit of collective initiatives by 40 States, countries and territories, comprising some 200 million people, united by the waters of the Caribbean.

They noted that the association would allow the wider Caribbean region a greater potential for more adequately serving the interests of the region in the areas of economic integration and functional cooperation, and would rely on wider mutual support of existing subregional integration and cooperation mechanisms and the involvement of the social partners in its activities.

The Heads of Government agreed to support Trinidad and Tobago as the site for the headquarters of the association of Caribbean States and accepted an offer from the Government of Colombia to host the ceremony for the signing of the convention establishing the association of Caribbean States.

Haiti

The Heads of Government again discussed the situation in Haiti and expressed their grave concern that, notwithstanding the numerous efforts by the international community to resolve the political crisis, the illegal regime had persistently refused to relinquish control of the governmental apparatus and to allow the constitutionally elected President of Haiti to function.

In declaring their abhorrence at the increasing acts of violence, the numerous killings and the many violations of human rights committed against the Haitian people, the Heads of Government also expressed their deep concern about the continuing exodus of persons fleeing Haiti under extremely hazardous conditions, and called on the international community to do all in its power to resolve the problem.

The Heads of Government issued a special resolution on the situation in Haiti (see appendix) and restated their commitment to participate in United Nations-mandated efforts aimed at the removal of the illegal regime and the restoration of democracy in Haiti.

Relations with Latin America

The Heads of Government welcomed the outcome of the negotiations with Colombia on an Agreement on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation, which was concluded in June 1994. They welcomed the Agreement as an opening of additional avenues for business people and investors from the region to pursue activities with other countries within the hemisphere. They took particular note that the Agreement provided special conditions for the less developed countries of CARICOM.

The Heads of Government recognized the continued active participation of CARICOM within the Rio Group, through the representation of its interests by Trinidad and Tobago for the three years commencing January 1994, following that of Jamaica, whose three-year term ended in December 1993.

The Heads of Government were brought up to date by Trinidad and Tobago on the Rio Group's deliberations in respect of issues involving the environment and sustainable development, poverty, marginalization, administrative integrity and human rights, among others, of the Group's support for the proposal of the United States of America to convene a summit of Western Hemisphere leaders at Miami in December 1994, and of its preparations for participation in the World Summit for Social Development in March 1995 at Copenhagen.

Belize/Guatemala relations

The Heads of Government reaffirmed their unswerving support for Belize's sovereignty, territorial integrity and security. They noted with concern Guatemala's restatement of its claim to a part of Belize's territory, but welcomed the Guatemalan Government's commitment to continued recognition of, and a peaceful solution with, Belize.

The Heads of Government therefore called on Guatemala to resume negotiations with Belize, so that a solution to the claim might be found on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality and adherence to the norms of international law.

Guyana/Venezuela relations

The Heads of Government considered a report on Guyana/Venezuela relations and noted the positive state of relations which existed between the two neighbouring countries. They expressed satisfaction with the progress of the good offices process of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations which aimed at a peaceful and enduring resolution of the controversy. The Heads of Government also noted that bilateral relations between Guyana and Venezuela were progressing normally.

The Heads of Government reiterated their support for Guyana's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Developments in the British Virgin Islands

The Heads of Government received a report from the Chief Minister of the British Virgin Islands on impending changes to be made to the Constitution of that territory relating to the introduction of a new category of representative and the implementing of those changes before the next scheduled elections.

They expressed grave concern at the decision to change the Constitution of the British Virgin Islands without meaningful consultations with the elected representatives of the people of the territory. The Heads of Government therefore urged that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland reconsider its approach, with a view to holding discussions with the elected representatives of the British Virgin Islands so that consensus could be arrived at with respect to any proposed revision of the constitutional arrangements.

Relations with Canada

The Heads of Government reviewed the region's relations with Canada, particularly in the context of the "special relationship" which had traditionally existed between CARICOM member States and Canada.

They urged the deepening of that relationship through the intensification of activities in existing avenues, such as those provided by the Joint Trade and Economic Committee, through CARICOM countries' diplomatic representation at Ottawa, through more effective liaison with the many Caribbean nationals resident in Canada, and at the leadership level at regional and other international forums.

Suriname

The Heads of Government welcomed the application received from the Government of Suriname for membership in the Caribbean Community and Common Market. They reaffirmed the position taken at the Second Special Meeting of the Conference in October 1992 that membership or a special form of relationship should be open to Suriname. They agreed to establish a review process which

would include a small technical group to develop, with the Government of Suriname, under the coordination of the Bureau of the Conference, details with respect to both the application for membership in the Community and the transitional arrangements with respect to membership in the Common Market. The Heads of Government agreed that they would seek to make a determination of the application at the next inter-sessional meeting of the Conference.

South Africa

The Heads of Government welcomed the successful holding of the first multiracial election in South Africa, which took place from 26 to 28 April 1994, and the historic election of Mr. Nelson Mandela as President of the Republic of South Africa. They agreed that the Community would support Commonwealth and other initiatives aimed at supporting the democratic and development processes and at strengthening the administrative machinery in that country. They recognized that the new South Africa represented an area of opportunity for mutually beneficial exchanges, and in that regard, they agreed to mount a CARICOM mission to South Africa to explore the possibilities for the development of trade, economic, social, cultural and other relations.

The Heads of Government had the benefit of receiving from Mr. Emeka Anyaoku, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, a report on recent developments in South Africa.

Global economic developments

North American Free Trade Agreement

The Heads of Government received an interim report on a study, mandated at their Fifth Inter-sessional Meeting, in March 1994, on the implications of NAFTA for existing and longer-term trade and economic relations of CARICOM countries with their principal partners, its impact on the regional economy, and a possible CARICOM response to the environment created by the new trade bloc. They agreed that it would be in CARICOM's interest to negotiate an arrangement for entry into NAFTA and that, with the involvement of the social partners, early steps were needed to ensure that the region was adequately prepared for the process of negotiation of accession.

They reaffirmed the commitment of CARICOM member States to approach the question of their relations with NAFTA as a unified group, while recognizing that individual member States may need different provisions and timetables to accommodate their particular interests.

The Heads of Government reviewed the measures proposed under the draft United States interim trade programme and welcomed that programme as a move in the right direction and as an attempt to resolve at least part of the problem, particularly in relation to apparel. They noted that the proposals did not give all that Caribbean countries had asked for. They agreed, however, that the region would further pursue improved access conditions with respect to the items

listed and those currently not benefiting from the programme, in particular petroleum products.

The Heads of Government agreed that CARICOM should work towards securing an arrangement that would provide for trade, investment flows, debt relief, financial assistance in the areas of diversification and retraining of personnel, and short-term employment opportunities especially for the heavily indebted countries and the least developed countries.

Bananas

Heads of Government reviewed developments in the European banana market, particularly within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the European Union, as they affected the Caribbean and other African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States banana exporting countries. They recognized that, notwithstanding the achievements so far, all the conditionalities surrounding the future of the Caribbean banana market had not been finally settled. They agreed to continue and intensify their lobbying campaign to save the banana industry, which was the principal means of livelihood for a significant number of people in the CARICOM region.

To this end, they agreed that a high-level CARICOM delegation should visit Europe to hold discussions on the outstanding concerns of the CARICOM countries, including the mid-term review of the Lomé Convention and the Protocol on Bananas.

Lomé IV and the mid-term review

The Heads of Government noted the launch of the negotiations of the mid-term review of Lomé IV in Swaziland earlier this year, and the high level of involvement of ministers and ambassadors from the Caribbean in the structure established by the ACP Group for undertaking the negotiations. They agreed that a high-level Caribbean delegation should visit several European capitals later this year to put forward the region's concerns, which had been expressed at a number of CARICOM forums regarding Lomé IV, including the delay both in the implementation of approved projects and in respect of those projects of the regional programme still outstanding under Lomé I to III. The Heads of Government agreed that the proposed high-level delegation should also lobby the European Union in support of the ACP Group with respect to the immediate increase in the rum quota and abolition of the quota in 1996.

They expressed their appreciation to the Hon. George Brizan for the effective discharge of his functions as President of the ACP Council of Ministers.

Environmental and sustainable development issues

The Heads of Government examined the results of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which was held in Barbados from 25 April to 6 May 1994, and especially the Declaration of Barbados and Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island

Developing States. While expressing satisfaction with the outcome of the Conference, they urged that the issues identified in the Declaration of Barbados should become a major focus of the Community's activities in the immediate future. They agreed to pursue those issues in the relevant national, regional and international forums in support of small island developing States.

The Heads of Government also deliberated on the role of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) in the Global Conference and reaffirmed that collaboration should continue among AOSIS member States with a view to exchanging information, experience and expertise in the promotion of sustainable development. They urged the international community to support fully those efforts.

The Heads of Government received a report from the President of Guyana, as the Head of Government responsible for environmental issues, in which he placed special emphasis on the implications for the region of the Global Conference and the urgent need for arrangements to be put in place to facilitate the implementation of policies and programmes for sustainable development. In that connection, they considered it imperative to utilize the restructured Global Environmental Facility in seeking to develop and implement environmental programmes. Action plans developed in that context should include budgetary provision for the CARICOM Task Force on the Environment to enable it to function on a continuous basis; a special effort to identify expertise in the Caribbean and encourage the sharing of expertise regionally; support for the Chair on Sustainable Development at the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies; sharing of equipment and other resources wherever possible to allow individual countries to carry out necessary tasks at minimum cost; and greater use of institutions in the region in order to reduce dependence on extraregional sources.

The Heads of Government expressed their congratulations and appreciation to the Government and people of Barbados for the efficient arrangements, which had resulted in the highly successful outcome of the Global Conference.

Western hemispheric summit

The Heads of Government welcomed the proposal of the President of the United States of America to convene a summit of western hemisphere leaders at Miami in December 1994. They accepted the need for an agenda that reflected the concerns of all the participating countries. They accordingly endorsed the strategy of a consultative approach to the summit which would involve a collective determination of the issues to be discussed. To that end, the Heads of Government agreed that a ministerial meeting should be part of the preparatory process. They endorsed the offer of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to host that meeting and noted with appreciation the offer of the Government of Canada to support such a meeting.

Developments in Rwanda

The Heads of Government expressed outrage at the continuing massacres in Rwanda and condemned in the strongest possible terms the atrocities being committed. They urged the parties involved to cease hostilities and to respect the most fundamental of all human rights, the right to life.

The Heads of Government pledged their support for the current efforts being undertaken by the United Nations to resolve that tragic conflict.

Candidatures

The Heads of Government reiterated their support for the candidacy of Mr. Christopher Thomas of Trinidad and Tobago as Assistant Secretary-General of the Organization of American States (OAS), and of Sir George Alleyne of Barbados as Executive Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). They also endorsed the candidature of Mr. Carl Greenidge for reappointment as Deputy Secretary-General of the ACP secretariat.

CARICOM/United Nations relations

The Heads of Government took note of the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, brought by his Special Representative to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference.

They agreed on the desirability of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations.

They requested the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community to pursue that matter with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to report on developments to the next meeting of the Conference.

International Seabed Authority

The Heads of Government received a report from the Prime Minister of Jamaica on developments relating to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

They noted that the Implementation Agreement for Part IX of the Convention would be open for signature on 29 July 1994 at the resumed forty-eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly and agreed that CARICOM member States would make every effort to sign and ratify the Implementation Agreement as soon as it was opened for signature and ratification.

They also noted that the inaugural meeting of the International Seabed Authority would be held at its proposed headquarters at Kingston on 16 November 1994 and urged that member States be represented at the highest level at that meeting.

Condolences

The Heads of Government paid tribute to the work of Mrs. Faith Wiltshire, who died while serving with dedication and distinction as the Director of Functional Cooperation in the CARICOM secretariat. They noted that her leadership qualities, and especially her advocacy and efforts on behalf of youth and other key actors in Caribbean society, were distinguishing features of her professional life.

Expression of concern

The Heads of Government expressed their sorrow that His Excellency William Herbert, Permanent Representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis to OAS, along with members of his family, has been missing at sea for three weeks. They noted the sterling contribution that he had made to the deepening of the integration movement and to the developmental process in Saint Kitts and Nevis.

Appreciation

The Heads of Government expressed their appreciation of the role played by Prime Minister Sandiford in the conduct of their meeting, which led to its successful conclusion. They extended their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Barbados for affording them the opportunity to meet in Conference to discuss issues of monumental interest to the region.

APPENDIX

Resolution on Haiti issued by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community on 7 July 1994

The Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, meeting in its fifteenth regular session at Bridgetown, Barbados, from 4 to 7 July 1994, having reviewed the recent developmental efforts aimed at resolving the crisis in Haiti:

Expressed grave concern that, notwithstanding the numerous efforts by the international community to resolve the political crisis in Haiti following the military overthrow of the democratically elected Government in September 1991, the illegal regime has persistently refused to relinquish control of the governmental apparatus of that country but has instead sought to usurp the process of the constitutional authority of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide;

Declared its abhorrence at the acts of violence against the Haitian people resulting in many hundreds of deaths, violations of human rights, economic hardship and to an exodus of persons fleeing their homeland under most hazardous conditions;

Emphasized its recognition that the resolution of the political crisis in Haiti, a Caribbean country, is one to which all the countries of this geo-political region, in cooperation with the international community in general, must make a meaningful contribution, and reiterated its readiness to do so;

Deplored the failure of the Haitian military regime to honour the commitments entered into in the Governors Island Agreement concluded between President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and Lieutenant General Raoul Cédras in July 1993;

Recognized the necessity of now considering the early implementation of all appropriate measures towards the resolution of the Haitian crisis, the restoration of the democratic process and the return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to his rightful place as elected President of Haiti;

Reiterated the commitment of the Caribbean Community to the reconstruction of Haiti, following the resolution of the crisis, through the mobilization of regional and extraregional financial, technical and other resources;

Urged the convening of an international pledging conference on the provision of assistance to Haiti, in order to receive from Governments and donor agencies commitments for the provision of technical and financial assistance over the short and medium term to underpin the functioning of the democratic process in Haiti;

Agreed to provide assistance in concert with other members of the international community in the development of a civilian force as a professional organization for maintaining the peace and respect for human rights in that strife-torn country;

Also agreed to make available to the constitutionally appointed authorities in Haiti a cadre of officers from the public service of the States members of the Caribbean Community, to provide training in public administration, the conduct of elections and other activities relevant to the establishment and entrenchment of such institutions, which would guarantee a stable civic society;

Urged all members of the international community to demonstrate their commitment to the early and definitive resolution of the Haitian political crisis and the subsequent social and economic reconstruction of that country.